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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I believe that the settlement should be a punishment for the monopolistic ways that Microsoft have been proven to have employed in a court of law. When interpreting the term 'punishment' I mean that the outcome for Microsoft should be a negative one in every sense - it should be shown that monopolistic/anti-trust ways should be detrimental in the end for those companies using them.

The most recent suggestion that Microsoft donate \$1bn of software/computers to schools is in no way punishment - it is not detrimental to the company. Instead it would allow Microsoft to get its foot in the door of a market that has traditionally preferred Microsofts only real competitor - Apple. To upset the market in this way with a \$1bn influx in Microsofts favour is a benefit to the company and not in any way detrimental. It would be outrageous should this proposal go ahead - those companies that remain in the industry such as Apple have been put through a hard enough time as it is with Microsoft's ways in the first place, and for them to lose out on this settlement would be insanity.

-Peter Allan Laurens